CLAIMS

1. A method of changing the particle thickness size distribution of flakes of material formed by a process which comprises feeding a stream of molten material in a downwards direction into a rotating cup or disc, and allowing the material to pass over the edge of the cup in such a manner as to be forced into the gap between a pair of plates surrounding the cup, the movement of the material being maintained in an angular direction and effected by a flow of air passing through the plates and either side of the material so as to pull the stream of material in such a manner as to keep it flat and also to pull it so that, as solidification of the material is effected, the sheet of material so formed is broken into flakes, the method comprising varying the distance between the cup and the entrance to the gap between.

2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the distance between the cup and the entrance to the gap between the plates can be varied by up to 1500% from the minimum separation of the plates.

3. A method according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the particle size distribution to be achieved by varying the distance between the cup and the plates is in the range from 10% to 95%.

4. A method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the separation between the cup and the plates is such that the particle thickness size distribution is in the range 700 to 900 nanometres when said distance is set at approximately 100 units, and 700 to 1300 nanometres when set at approximately 500 units.